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## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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### **PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON XCEL RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD COMPLIANCE PLAN**

DENVER – The Public Utilities Commission will take public comment on Monday, Feb. 3, on Xcel Energy’s proposed 2014 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) compliance plan, including the issue of incentives for rooftop solar arrays.

The public hearing will be from 4:30 p.m. to no later than 7:30 p.m. at the PUC offices in Denver, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Hearing Room A.

Xcel is proposing to cut incentives to customers to less than a cent per kilowatt-hour. It also has raised questions about the net metering credit that customers with solar installations get for electricity they send back to the grid. The company said net metering customers receive a 10.5-cent credit for each kilowatt-hour they put on the grid, but provide only 5 cents in benefits.

Xcel has suggested that the net metering incentive either “needs to be ramped down over time or that other rate design solutions must be explored to address the incentive net metering provides for future installations.” A number of solar industry associations dispute Xcel’s claims, arguing that the company’s studies have undervalued the benefits that rooftop solar installations provide.

In addition to the proposed changes to the solar programs, Xcel’s 2014 RES compliance plan updates its Windsource program and, for the first time, adds both a recycled energy program and a non-solar renewable energy credit (REC) program to its portfolio.

A PUC decision on the RES compliance plan is due by July.

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